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United States Patent [19][11] **Patent Number:** **5,122,427****Flowers et al.**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 16, 1992**[54] **BATTERY PACK**

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Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue[73] Assignee: **Skil Corporation**, Chicago, Ill.[21] Appl. No.: **743,166**[22] Filed: **Aug. 9, 1991**[51] Int. Cl.⁵ **H01M 2/10**[52] U.S. Cl. **429/97; 429/99;**
429/123[58] Field of Search 429/96-100,
429/121-123, 158, 159, 163, 1, 9; 307/150[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**3,657,021 4/1972 Mathews 429/123 X
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A unitary rechargeable battery pack includes a plurality of axially aligned battery cells coupled to each other in electrical series with an insulated housing surrounding and enclosing the cells. The housing includes complementary halves detachably connected to each other. First, second and third electrical terminals provide two positive voltages and a common or negative voltage terminal, respectively. First and second and third openings in one end of the battery pack expose the first, second and third terminals for electrical connection. The openings are accessible for connection in a 90° quadrant at one end of the battery pack.

17 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets